

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 3, wherein the drug eluting substance includes a drug mixed with a polymeric binding.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus as recited in claim 1,~~ An apparatus comprising:
an implantable device including at least one of a lead or a cardiac rhythm management
device, the implantable device having a device body wherein the device body includes a
including at least one cavity therein;
one or more chemical sensors coupled with the device body the cavity disposed adjacent
or near the one or more chemical sensors at least one cavity; and
the a drug eluting substance disposed within the at least one cavity, the drug eluting
substance preventing fibrotic growth on the one or more chemical sensors.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 3, wherein the at least one
cavity partially or completely surrounds an outer perimeter of the one or more chemical sensors
~~are defined in part by an outer perimeter~~, and the drug eluting substance is disposed around the
outer perimeter of the one or more chemical sensors.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 3, wherein the drug eluting substance includes a drug eluting matrix that elutes one or more drugs over time.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 3, wherein the drug eluting substance is a drug esterified drug.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 3, wherein the drug eluting substance includes a drug mixed with polymeric binders.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[9]] 12, wherein the one or more blood monitoring sensors is comprise a glucose sensor.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[9]] 12, wherein the one or more blood monitoring sensors ~~monitors~~ monitor one or more of bicarbonate, blood urea nitrogen (BUN), brain naturetic peptide (BNP), calcium, chloride, osmolarity, potassium, renin, or sodium.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus as recited in claim 9;~~ An apparatus comprising:
an implantable device including a lead adapted to assist in conducting one or more
electrical signals to and from a heart, the lead having an intravascular device body wherein the
intravascular device body includes including a cavity therein;
one or more blood monitoring sensors coupled with the intravascular device body;
a drug eluting substance disposed within the cavity, the drug eluting substance including
and a pre-compressed drug substance is shaped to fit within the cavity to prevent fibrotic growth
on the one or more blood monitoring sensors; and
wherein the intravascular body extends from a proximal portion to a distal portion.

13. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein the pre-compressed drug substance includes a drug compressed with a starch.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus as recited in claim 14,~~ An apparatus comprising:
an implantable device including at least one of a lead adapted to assist in conducting
electrical signals to and from a heart or a cardiac rhythm management device electrically
couplable to the heart for sensing or stimulation thereof, the implantable device having a device
body wherein the device body includes including a cavity therein;
means for sensing a chemical substance coupled with the device body; and
means for chemically preventing fibrotic growth on the means for sensing a chemical
substance, the means for chemically preventing fibrotic growth including and a pre-compressed
drug substance is shaped to fit within the cavity.
16. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the pre-compressed drug substance includes a drug compressed with a starch.
17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim ~~[[14]]~~ 15, wherein the means for sensing a chemical substance is a glucose sensor.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as recited in claim 18,~~ A method comprising:
providing an implantable device having a device body including a cavity therein,
including providing at least one of a lead adapted to assist in conducting electrical signals to and
from a heart or a cardiac rhythm management device electrically couplable to the heart for
sensing or stimulation thereof;
coupling a chemical sensor with the device body near or directly adjacent to the cavity;
disposing a drug eluting substance on a portion of the device body, wherein disposing the
drug eluting substance includes including filling [[a]] the cavity of the device body with the drug
eluting substance; and
preventing fibrotic growth with the drug eluting substance.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[18]] 20, further comprising binding the drug eluting substance with a polymer.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[18]] 20, wherein filling the cavity with the drug eluting substance includes ~~further comprising~~ compressing a platelet inhibitor drug and forming a capsule, and disposing the capsule within [[a]] the cavity of the device body.

23. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[18]] 20, wherein filling the cavity with the drug eluting substance includes ~~further comprising~~ compressing a drug with a starch and pressure molding the drug into a predetermined shape, and disposing the molded drug into [[a]] the cavity of the device body.

24. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[18]] 20, further comprising forming an esterified drug eluting substance prior to disposing the drug eluting substance on ~~near, or directly adjacent to the chemical sensor~~ the portion of the device body.

25. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[18]] 20, further comprising mixing a drug with liquid silicone to form the drug eluting substance.

26. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 25, further comprising curing the drug and liquid silicone after the drug and liquid silicone are disposed in ~~one or more cavities~~ the cavity of the device body.

27. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[18]] 20, further comprising mixing a drug with a hydrogel to form the drug eluting substance.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 3, wherein the implantable device includes the lead, the lead adapted to assist in conducting one or more electrical signals between the cardiac rhythm management device and a heart.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein the implantable device includes the cardiac rhythm management device, the cardiac rhythm management device electrically couplable via the lead to a heart for sensing or stimulation thereof.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the cavity includes a ring shape, the ring shape completing encircling a perimeter of the device body.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim ~~[[9]]~~ 12, wherein the one or more blood monitoring sensors are coupled to the distal portion of the intravascular device body.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 31, wherein the one or more blood monitoring sensors are adapted to be transvenously guided into a right atrium of a heart, through a coronary sinus and into a great cardiac vein.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 31, wherein the one or more blood monitoring sensors are adapted to be inserted into at least one of a right atrium or a right ventricle of a heart.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 31, wherein the one or more blood monitoring sensors are adapted to be transarterially inserted into at least one of a left atrium or a left ventricle of a heart.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim ~~[[14]]~~ 15, wherein the device body includes a recess therein, and the means for sensing a chemical substance is disposed, at least in part, within the recess.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the cavity encircles at least a portion of a perimeter of the device body.

37. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the one or more chemical sensors are disposed within a recess of the device body, and the at least one cavity is tunneled into a wall of the recess.

38. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 37, wherein the at least one cavity is tunneled into the wall of the recess at a location above a portion of the one or more chemical sensors.

39. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 37, wherein the at least one cavity includes a plurality of cavities disposed in an annular ring that forms the wall of the recess.

40. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the drug eluting substance comprises a preformed shape that fits within the at least one cavity.

41. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 3, wherein the drug eluting substance is malleable within the at least one cavity.

42. (New) The apparatus as recited in claim 12, wherein the cavity includes a ring shape, the ring shape completely encircling a perimeter of the intravascular device body.